Email: news@arubatoday.com Wednesday, February 18, 2009



Price of a barrel of petroleum today:

US\$ 34.93

INSIDE TODAY

U.S. NEWS

SPENDING SPREE



As Vice President Joe Biden applauds, President Barack Obama gets up from the table after signing the American Recovery and Reinvestment Act, Tuesday, Feb. 17, 2009, during a ceremony at the **Denver Museum of Nature and** Science in Denver.

See INTERNATIONAL NEWS

SPORTS NEWS

COMING CLEAN



York Yankees Rodriguez ponders what to say to his teammates for showing their support during a news conference at George Steinbrenner Field in Tampa, Fla., Tuesday, Feb. 17, 2009.

See Sports Today

bjoy carnivo Paseo Herencia celebrates Carnival



Luz Marina & Brian Reeve of Moby Dick's celebrate Carnival at the Paseo Herencia Mall with MRS. CARNIVAL 2009.







PALM BEACH – On Monday evening, Paseo Herencia Mall in front of the Holiday Inn on Palm Beach invited the most recently elected queens,





princes, panchos, and fabulous steel drum bands to participate in a mini Carnival. The police closed the street in front of the high rise hotels so that the Mini Carnival Jump Up could parade down the street to enjoy the Jump In on the stage at the Paseo Herencia Mall in front of the Water Light Show.

Everyone enjoyed fabulous evening as the steel drum bands competed against each other for the most terrific Carnival VIP's sounds. danced on stage for every one to see as a pre-event for the Grand Parade coming this weekend.

Photos by Julia Renfro









Insurance Association of Aruba bids fond Farewell to Rajiv Bhati





ORANJESTAD - On behalf of the Insurance Association of Aruba, Barbara Marin presented a clock with Aruba map to remind Rajiv of his association with us every time he looks at the time in future. Also, on behalf of automobile committee, Roger Schimmel appreciated Rajiv Bhatia for his input in this committee consistently.

Finally on behalf of all present, IAA president Prakash Gupta appreciated role of Rajiv Bhatia in many of his assignments on the Board including Secretary and Assistant Secretary as also in various committees of the Association. His initiative in everything he undertook in the last 4 years or so was praiseworthy.









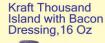
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Fishing Rods









































Children's Parade in Oranjestad brimming with color and fun



Oranjestad – TBS Brassband heralded the arrival of the 2009 Children's Carnival parade in Oranjestad. Among groups parading in colorful costumes, shoulder & head pieces, body & road pieces, and floats Baby Champagne, Astrid Jansen & Co, Nos Fofoti, Don Flip Carnaval Group, Wizzkids

















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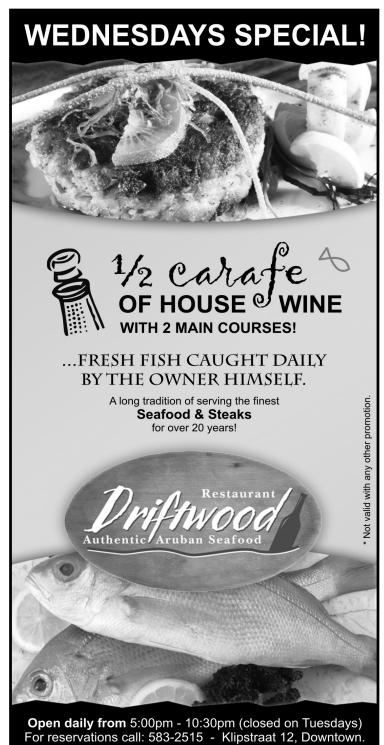
Palm Beach 4-G, Noord, Aruba Tel. (297) 586 42 42



Carnival Group, La Rochelita, with Jolly Kids, New Generation 3 street band, Centro di Bario band Noord, Grupo nos Futuro, line Mini & Youth Danza Aruba, the Dejakids and the Last lap band.

The parade started around 1 p.m. on Sunday with 1,799 kids, and finished at 4:25 p.m., five minutes ahead of schedule,

with 12 groups, 1 brass band, 3 steel bands and 12 musical bands. Locals and visitors lined the streets enjoying the happy faces, admiring the amazing handiwork of dedicated mother and fathers, group organizers and designers, staging a unique street happening, filled with music and fun.

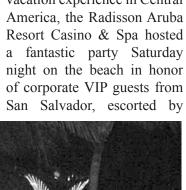


www.driftwoodaruba.com

Copa airline familiarization trip enjoys dinner reception on beach



PALM BEACH -Copa Airlines, now flying into Aruba a number of times a week, opened vacation possibilities from the residents of El Salvador. In order to cultivate interest in the Aruba vacation experience in Central





Salvador Garcia, the airline's representative.

The Radisson's department of special events set up a



lovely reception on the beach followed by festive dinner at a community table, serving a gourmet three-course dinner.

which was chased by a choice of Seabass saffron sauce and Filet Mignon green pepper and cognac sauce, and culminated with double chocolate cake with chocolate dipped strawberries.

4ruba TODAY

Mylene Marques and Vicky Peres, both members of the department hosted the party on behalf of the resort













creative dishes prepared with a European touch with irresistible secret flavorings which continue to lure guests back, again and again. Feast on fresh Caribbean catch in one of the cozy booths with a view of an aquarium at each seat, surrounded by tropical splendor and nautical decor, Our second dining room resembles an underwater cave, complete with a 7,500 gallon saltwater aquarium, unseen elsewhere. Our friendly staff is here to give you the "Welcome Aboard" feeling and the chef-owner will personally take care of you.





Linda's Pancakes & Pizza's

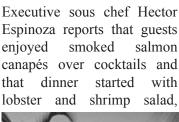
Palm Beach #6-D (next to Valero Gas Station)

<u>OPEN:</u>

Monday - Saturday 08.00AM - 10:00PM

> **Sunday** Closed

EL: (297) 586-3378









How to protect your children against the sun during Carnival

Carnival is a great, fun activity for your children but it also means a lot of sun exposure and a chance of major sun burn. When your children are participating in the Carnival parades, it is important to protect their skin from the damaging effects of the sun.

Protecting skin from the sun during childhood and adolescence is important in reducing cancer risks later in life. By building safe sun habits into your family's daily routine, you will make your children understand and get used to being protected against the sun and they will become more aware of the harmful effects it can have to their skin. Parents should take the lead by giving the good example; children will respond better when they see you are protecting your skin as well.

Important recommendations:

- Wear protective clothing when out in the sun. Choose shirts and shorts made of tightly woven fabrics that you can't see through when held up to light.
- Cover up with hats and caps. Choose hats that provide shade for your child's face, neck and ears.
- Apply sunscreen before going into the sun on skin that is not protected by clothing or a hat. You should choose a sunscreen with a Sun Protection Factor (SPF) of 15 or higher. Aruba Aloe recommends their Water resistant SPF 30 sunscreen for maximum protection during Carnival, which is sweat resistant as well. Even if it is cloudy during the parades, you should still use sunscreen because you can still get a sun burn! Reapply after 2 hours in the sun.
- Pack a bottle of



sunscreen in your child's bag.

- Keep an extra bottle of sunscreen in your car.
- Use Sunglasses that block UV rays and protect the eyes and the surrounding tender skin.
- Teach vour children the shadow rule. When you stand outside and your shadow is shorter than you are, then the sun is high in the sky and the UV rays are most intense. For more advice on how to best protect you and your children's skin against the sun, please call Aruba Aloe: 588-3222 or visit the website www.ArubaAloe.com

Aruba Aloe products are availableatmost supermarkets, pharmacies and the Aruba Aloe Stores.







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Wednesday, February 18, 2009 LOCAL

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Machines Are Still Loose...

Players Are "Smiling" in Crystal Casino

ORANJESTAD - The slot machines in Crystal Casino are looser than ever during this Carnival Season. The machine known as the "Triple Cash" stopped on a combination of triple cash and 2 insignias of white number 7's. Immediately thereafter, Glenn Head from NY, USA started jumping of joy.

The tourist was in company of some of his friends who



then noticed that their friend had just won US\$4500, after playing at the machine for just 20 minutes.

On the pictures we can appreciate the happy winner

in the company of his friends. He assured all that he'd be back to Aruba during his next vacation and will visit Crystal Casino without fail.



Kiwanis Club of Palm Beach

for tickets call: 583-4042 / 593-0132 / 732-4868 or any KCPB member



Ex-Hadicurari BBQ & Grill with the same owner's. We do our own daily fishing so we serve the freshest seafood on the Island.

Very reasonable price, exciting menu and **NO SERVICE CHARGE**

Dinner from 5:30 - 10:00 Monday - Saturday



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Spectacular Vow Renewals at De Palm Island



ORANJESTAD - De Palm Island had a spectacular renewal of vows event for Valentine's Day weekend with many couples rekindling vows. There was a romantic set-up on the beach were the ceremony of Vow renewal took place. After this unforgettable each couple ceremony received a marriage certificate and a glass of champagne to celebrate the moment.

Besides this memorable event of Vow renewal couples also enjoyed of De Palm Islands facilities and recreational activities.

The Valentine's all-inclusive package also included open bar, grill station and a mouthwateringall-you-can-eatbuffet with a special Valentine's Day dessert that was prepared by









Overall at the De Palm Island Valentine's weekend was spectacular.

Couples enjoyed of a memorable experience of Vow renewal at this Private Paradise and at the same time enjoyed of a complete romantic package for the entire day.



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Open daily from 5:30pm until 11pm Recommended seatings 5:30pm - 6pm - 6:30pm For reservations call 523-6195 Located next to the Crystal Casino





Get ready for a close and personal encounter with huge, prehistoric birds! The Aruba Ostrich Farm invites you to meet these unique birds and learn more about their behavior, natural instinct and maybe even stand on its enormous eggs. Our Savanna Lodge Restaurant serves ostrich delicacies, chicken dishes, salads, vegetarian dishes and offers a breathtaking view along Aruba's north shore. Don't forget to pay a visit to our Afri-





20% discount on the tour. Not valid with other promotions.



As good as it gets

Aruba TODAY

Have you every seen a mermaid? Come to Moby Dick's

PASEO HERENCIA – Moby Dick's has one mission; to take you to the depths of the blue ocean to taste some of the most exquisite dishes to come from the deep. What a truly beautiful restaurant this is, and what a unique interior to match. The inside is studded with artwork, amazing glass carvings, and both floors are dominated by gigantic fountains, with water running from ceiling to floor along multicoloured lit fibre optic cables. The stairway is lined by an impressive painting which runs along the complete

The menu promises to be a true seafood lovers dream. Lobsters, fresh fish fillets, shrimps, Moby Dick's has everything on the menu. There is of course a land lubbers section for those who are so disposed. The wine list is impressive to say the least, and the cocktails are definitely worth a taste.

Moby Dick's is open for lunch as well. The chef has made a well rounded, extensive menu for you to choose from. You will find what you want, whatever your craving may be at that time. The staff is amongst the friendliest on the



whim. So long story short, for unbelievable seafood in unique surroundings, go to Moby Dick's. You'll have a whale of a time!

Located at Moby Dick's

For More information and Reservations Call: 586 8333

The trendiest coffees on Aruba

Segafredo at South Beach Centre

PALM BEACH - Recently Segafredo very quietly opened its doors in the new South Beach Mall, right across from the High Rise Hotels. They have been a raving succes from day one, not a surprise to anyone as Segafredo is one of the world's trendiest and recognized coffee brands.

Segafredo is opened from 6AM for the early starters until midnight. You'll find the Grand Opening Specials below, they are made just for you! They will serve you the best Segafredo coffees during the morning to get you going, during lunch you will find fresh panini sandwiches, pizza, lasagna and salads. Night time at Segafredo's promises special coffees, martini's, longdrinks and of course beer on one of the trendiest locations on the island. General Manager Maarten Alberts has trained his staff to utter perfection on how to make the best coffees, and it shows. Served by the most courteous staff on the island, the morning espressos and

cappuchinos are put in front of you with every attention to detail. We invite

your day in the best way possible; at Segafredo. Grand **ESPRESSO** Opening Specials



Friday Flamenco Fiesta; Well Worth The Short Trip Downtown

Paella & Flamenco at Casa Tua Downtown on Friday

DOWNTOWN - Casa Tua draws a crowd of local and not-so-local folks who can't seem to get enough of the pizza and the place. There's almost always a wait here, even if you have reservations, so place yourself at the bar with the smell of brick oven pizzas wafting to other tables, and knowing that at some point, that bliss will be

Al fresco dining is designed with a chicly rustic feel. The atmosphere is cool and relaxed, "Casa Tua" meaning "Your Home" in Italian.

crust, dripping with cheese down by an Italian chef, sauce, this pizza comes with master", in the French a variety of toppings in the student city of Montpellier meat and veggie categories. in 1969. This recipe has been Pasta dishes, full Italian perfected over the years to meals like Lasagne and veal such a point where Casa Osso Buco, fresh salads Tua is known on the island and rich desserts are also these days for the best pizza. on the menu.

With a Sicilian-style thin thin crust recipe was handed and fresh-made tomato known locally as "the pizza open 11am to 11pm,

> reservations call **Downtown:** 588 5695 Or ask your concierge.

Casa Tua's famous secret Casa Tua Palm Beach open 5pm to 11pm. Casa Tua Downtown Sundays 5pm to 11pm. For more information or Palm Beach: 586 8470



Red Sail Sports Aruba for all sail cruises

Sail with Red Sail Sports Aruba Sunset along Aruba's scenic Coastline



PALM BEACH - Red Sail Sports' catamaran will take you on an unforgettable journey: the Mexican Dinner Sail. Your trip includes a Live Mariachi Band, Mexian Food and an open bar with Tequila, Coronitas and Margaritas. The Mexican Party Sails on Friday from 6:00 pm to 8:00 pm.

Aruba's trade winds provide the ideal conditions for sailing aboard Red Sail Sports' top quality, luxurious cata-

Set sail and join Red Sail Sports Half Day Luncheon Snorkel Sail or the romantic Sunset Sail. Red Sail Sports also offers a Dinner Sailwhich combines a sail along Aruba's scenic coastline and a spectacu-lar view of the sunset with a tantalizing buffet catered by award-winning chefs. If you want to discover Aruba's underwater world, be sure to get in touch with Red Sail Sports. Learn to dive in one



Course, get PADI certified or join 586-1603 or go to www. us on our daily one and two tank redsail-aruba.com. Be sure dives.Red Sail Sports is Aruba's to visit one of Red Sail er-ator. Activity desks are located swimwear, beach essentials, at the Hyatt Regency, Marriott Re- T-shirts and sorts and on Renaissance Island.

day with the Discover Scuba Dive To make reservations call lead-ing dive and watersports op- Sports' stores for the latest in souvenirs.

Wednesday, February 18, 2009 ADVERTORIAL

'Aruhiba" Aruba's homemade cigar



ORANJESTAD - Benjamin Petrochi has started the newest

export product of Aruba, locally produced cigars called 'Aruhiba'. These cigars are produced and cultivated in Aruba. Petrochi has always had an interest in the cigar business and has also sold cigars from outside, and now he is growing his own tobacco crop. After many attempts and trips to Santo Domingo and Cuba he started his own production and cultivation of 'Aruhiba'' cigars in Aruba. The process took 5 years Petrochi's dedication to the cigars is important for the molding and



process of making a perfect cigar which takes a long time. The cigar case is specially designed for the cigars with the logo 'Aruhiba' and 'Made in Aruba'. Petrochi considers 'Aruhiba' a promotion for Aruba through fine quality cigars.

The company sells international cigars as well. Buy a gift box of Aruhiba Corona with five cigars and get 1 free for \$35.00.

Located at the Historic Dutch



Windmill from 9am to 8pm. Open on Sunday.

And also at Tamarijn: open 9am - 5pm and Sunday from 9am to 1pm.

The only place to get Aruhiba and all major credit cards accepted.

We have homemade and best premium Cuban Cigars. All cigars are legal through costum.

Call 586-7833 or 593-6177. Open for tour operators and we have a large parking space. Come and see Mr. Petrochi rolling the cigars everyday.



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Restaurant











Located in the charming tropical enverions of the Perle d'Or resort, the Pam Pam restaurant offers a peek at Aruba's cunucu (countryside) while still being conveniently located close to all of Aruba's prime resorts.

Firts-time patrons will be pleasantly surprised by an appealing a la carte menu that is quite affordably priced.

Soccer stadium

De schakel

De schakel

Adventure golf

high rise

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Pam Pam has the biggest menu with a choice from 26 main-couses, all priced between \$ 13 / \$ 23 (excl. discount).no service charge

Pam Pam 's house specialty is a unique method of preperation, wich presently at Aruba is found only at their establishment and which they have dubbed their "gourmet meal. A grill and a collection of fresh ingredients for the various dishes ordered are assembled tableside, and patrons prepare the food themselves, controlling their preference of seasonings and garnishes, along with degree of doneness, providin a unique and personal taste treat. It is suggested that reservation for this singular dining experience be made before 3 p.m



With this coupon you recieve 20% discount on all main-courses from our menu.

1 coupon per person and not valid with other dicounts or specials for reservation call: 5877710 / 5932660



Bahamas and the Netherlands strengthen ties

might

sectors

The Bahamas is seeking the support of the Kingdom of The Netherlands for a level playing field regarding the tax recovery policy of the Organisation for Economic Cooperation and Development (OECD), as both countries seek closer ties on a number of diplomatic matters. This was among matters outlined by His Excellency Sir Arthur Foulkes, Deputy to the Governor General, as he accepted Letters of Credence from Her Excellency Regina Veronica Maria Jones-Bos, Ambassador of the Kingdom of the Netherlands to The Bahamas, in a ceremony at Government House on Thursday, February 12. Sir Arthur also said that from the perspective of bilateral relations and the strong ties between both countries, the Bahamas is seeking The Netherlands' for sustainable European investment and its candidacy in the United Nations Economic and Social Council and the Commission on Sustainable Development. "The Bahamas values the cordial relations that exist between the Kingdom of The Netherlands and looks forward to continued friendly ties," Sir Arthur said. "During this time of economic recession, continued enhanced cooperation can help to mitigate the negative impact on our tourism and

financial services industries. "We note, especially, that human rights are a high priority of your Government and we were pleased to support your candidacy for a seat on the United Nations Human Rights Council," he said. Sir Arthur acknowledged the "important role" The Netherlands played as a member of the Troika that facilitated the review of The Bahamas during the universal periodic review process. This took place at the third session of the working group of the Human Rights Council in Geneva in December, 2008.

"Our foreign policy priorities and as yet unfulfilled potential for complementarities with our economic strengths, provide important and immediate objectives with regard to your pledge to strengthen further the already very friendly and strong relations that our two countries and peoples share," Sir Arthur said. Ambassador Jones-Bos said that the similarities between both countries go beyond history and geography. She noted that economically, The Bahamas and The Netherlands Antilles and Aruba are a lot alike. The strong points of The Bahamas economy are tourism and financial services. "In the face of the current economic recession

above-average and might undo development economic growth that we have taken for granted throughout the last years. "Against this background an enhanced cooperation between our two countries is to our mutual benefit; in particular in these times of economic and financial uncertainty," Ambassador Jones-Bos said. She also commended Attorney General Michael Barnett for the "open and fruitful" discussions in Geneva on human rights in general, and the rights of women and children in particular. Ambassador Regina Veronica Maria Jones-Bos, 56, has a Masters of Arts Degree in Russian Studies from the University of Sussex, United Kingdom, in 1977. In 1981,



Her Excellency Regina Veronica Maria Jones-Bos, Ambassador of the Kingdom of the Netherlands to The Bahamas presented her credentials to His Excellency Sir Arthur Foulkes, Deputy to the Governor General on Thursday, February 12 at a ceremony at Government House. (BIS Photo/Peter Ramsay)

she joined the Ministry of The Netherlands is located Foreign Affairs, and has in Northwestern Europe and served in Dhaka, Bangladesh; is a founding member of the Paramaribo, Suriname; and European Union, NATO and Washington DC, United States. the OECD.□

Sumptuons 20- Sundowner

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- Entrée -

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Chicken Breast Picatta served over Fettuccini

- Dessert -

Carrot Cake with Carrot Jelly & Raspberry Sauce Traditional Crème Brulée

Choose two side dishes from our extensive list and one glass of Concha y Toro's Casillero del Diablo per person (Chardonnay or Merlot)

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The Ambassador and her husband, Dr. Richard Huw Jones were guests of honour and a luncheon hosted by their Excellencies Sir Arthur and Mrs. Foulkes following the presentation ceremony. (BIS Photo/Peter Ramsay)



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Wednesday, February 18, 2009 BUSINESS

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Island Life - Marriott Ocean Club

Mistral - La Cabana



DeWit & VanDorp - Queen Beatrix Airport
Scaport Passage - Renaissance Mall
VanDorp Gifts - Occidental Grand

VanDorp Gifts - Bucuti Beach Resort

VanDorp Gifts - Holiday Inn SunSpree VanDorp Gifts - Tamarijn Aruba

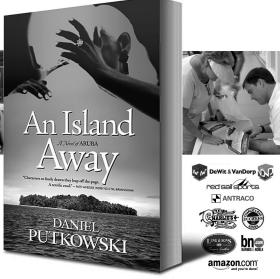
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Red Sail Sports - Hyatt Regency Resort Tropical Breeze - Radisson Resort Tradewynds - Westin Resort Tropical Market - Marriott Ocean Club Tropical Temptations - Costa Linda Ling & Sons IGA - Oranjestad Charlie's Bar - San Nicolas Plaza Bookshop - Dakota



Arubu TODAY

AP source: GM, UAW close to deal as deadline nears



In this Sept. 12, 2008 file photo, assembly line workers join the cab to the chassis of a Chrysler's 2009 Dodge Ram pickup being assembled at the Warren Truck Plant in Warren, Mich. General Motors Corp. and Chrysler LLC, racing to finish restructuring plans to present to the federal government, are unlikely to complete deals with debt holders and union workers by the governmentimposed deadline Tuesday, Feb. 17, 2009.

(AP Photo/Carlos Osorio, file)

By TOM KRISHER and KEN THOMAS,

Associated Press Writers

DETROIT - General Motors Corp. and the United Auto Workers were getting close to an agreement on concessions, a person briefed on the negotiations said Tuesday, just hours before GM and Chrysler LLC must submit a restructuring plan to the Treasury Department to justify its federal loans.

Details of the deal were not available. Negotiations went all night Monday and into Tuesday, said the person, who spoke on condition of anonymity because the plan has yet to be submitted.

Both GM and Chrysler were racing to finish restructuring plans to present to the federal government, but final deals with debt holders and union workers may not come until after Tuesday's governmentimposed deadline passes, according to others who also were briefed on the situation.

The people briefed on the talks did not want to be identified because the negotiations are private.

GM scheduled conference for 6:30 p.m. to discuss its restructuring plans, and Chrysler planned to hold a conference call with reporters at 5 p.m.

The status of Chrysler's talks was unknown

GM on Tuesday received the last \$4 billion of the \$13.4 billion it was promised by the Treasury Department, White House spokesman Robert Gibbs told reporters aboard Air Force One. Chrysler has received \$4 billion.

The plans are supposed to outline how the automakers intend to again become viable and repay the government loans. Ford Motor Co., which borrowed billions from private sources before credit markets tightened, has said it can make it through 2009 without government help.

Two people briefed on the GM plan reported progress Monday toward a deal with the United Auto Workers, but UAW Legislative Director Alan Reuther said he did not expect labor agreements in time for Tuesday's deadline.

GM executives have said the company only has to show substantial progress by Tuesday. with the whole plan finalized by March 31.

Reuther, who heads the UAW's Washington office, said the Obama administration's appointment Sunday night of a task force to oversee the automakers' restructuring should get things moving.

"I think this is an ongoing process, and having the Obama administration finally putting this task force in operation,

hopefully it will be able to facilitate discussions going forward," Reuther said.

At GM, UAW bargainers walked out of talks Friday night in a spat over the company's contributions to a union-run trust fund that will take on retiree health care expenses starting next year.

GM's plan is likely to seek more money, at least up to the \$18 billion that it requested from Congress in December under its worst-case scenario projections. That scenario has arrived with U.S. sales at a 26-year low and auto sales dropping in other parts of the world, a person briefed on GM's plan said.

The plan will stick with GM's public strategy of trying to remain viable and avoiding Chapter 11 bankruptcy protection, said the person, who spoke on condition of anonymity because the plan has not been finalized.

said the administration looks forward to reviewing GM and Chrysler's restructuring plans, and the president wouldn't rule out a government-backed bankruptcy for the struggling automakers. GM's plan will discuss cost savings from labor concessions and additional plant closures, but the locations of those plants will not be revealed, another person briefed on the plan said Monday. The number of factories to be closed wasn't available.

GM's board met Monday by teleconference to go over the plan, but details could not be obtained.

The people briefed on the plan said it will include more information about how GM will cut some of its eight brands, although nothing will be finalized. The company already has said Saab and Hummer are up for sale and Saturn is under review, leaving GM to focus on Chevrolet, Cadillac, GMC and Buick, with Pontiac reduced to one or two models.

Earlier, local union officials said negotiations had been slowed by the Obama administration's delay in appointing a "car czar." But Sunday night, the White House announced a task force to oversee the companies' restructuring.

Obama plans to restructuring expert Ron Bloom a senior adviser to Treasury Secretary Timothy Geithner. While he won't be the "car czar" point man many labor and business leaders expected. Bloom, a former consultant to the United Steelworkers of America, will be doing much of the financial analysis for the administration.

The competing interests of debt holders also slowed the labor talks, as no stakeholder wants to make concessions before the other

Under the terms of GM and Chrysler's loans, both companies must use their best efforts to reach "targets" to reduce debt and labor costs. One target says the automakers need to make half of their payments into the health care trust in the form of stock rather than cash. Another requires the companies to reduce unsecured debt by two-thirds by swapping debt for equity. The terms also seek labor cost parity with Japanese automakers that have U.S. plants.

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HEALTH A13 Wednesday, February 18, 2009

By: Dr. Carlos Viana

currently We are involved with a movement that is more than a harmless symbolic party in the streets. Anthropologists and Traditional Chinese Medical physicians know that people, as part of nature, are influenced by a surge of hormones that takes place in all animals this time of the year. Hormones, which if we do not learn to live with will have us, do things that we cannot understand.

Carnival is an annual spring celebration of life found in many countries of the world. By learning about carnival, we can learn more about accepting and understanding other cultures. Like anything in life, by understanding what is going on we can better take care of ourselves.

We can read about the ancient Roman festival in honor of Bacchus as the best historical account of what originally went on during spring rites. The religious ceremonies gave way to the memories of earlier rites and the pleasures of wine and feasting were added. The historical record reads that a great number of converts gave in to the free flowing wine. The festivities existed for provoking or exciting lustful, erotic participation among the participants, including all sort of unrestrained self-indulgent sexual behavior.

Here in Aruba we have a saying that says, "What done while drunk does not count"; an unfortunate social excuse for not having to take responsibility for your actions. Several people partying in the streets will drink themselves to the point of Alcohol Poisoning, which is an acute medical emergency. Passing out is not always just sleeping it off.

How can you tell if someone is about to become a victim of alcohol poisoning and if they are what can you do to help? The signs and symptoms of alcohol poisoning is a person who is unconscious or semiconsciousness and has slow respiration (breaths) of eight or less per minute or lapses between breaths of more than eight seconds; often they will have cold, clammy, pale or bluish skin. In the event of alcohol poisoning, this will most likely be accompanied by a strong odor of alcohol. These are most obvious signs of alcohol poisoning.

If you encounter a person who exhibits one or more of the signs and symptoms, CALL 911. While waiting for 911 emergency help to arrive, gently turn the intoxicated person on his/her side and maintain that position by placing a pillow in the small of the person's back. This is important to prevent aspiration (choking) should the person vomit. Stay with the person until medical help arrives. If a person appears to be "sleeping it off" it is important to realize that even though a person may be semiconscious, alcohol already in the stomach may continue to enter the bloodstream and circulate throughout the body. The person's life may still be in danger. If you are having difficulty in determining

Carnival Health

whether an individual is acutely intoxicated, contact a first aid provider immediately—the victim cannot afford for you to guess.

With all this alcohol and dancing for many it equals sexual activity. The many underage girls who were impregnated last year during Carnival do have to live with the consequences. Besides pregnancies, unprotected sex provides the risk for sexually transmitted diseases. AIDS is still a major public health concern. In the Caribbean, we are seeing the problem increasing in spite of all the public education campaigns.

While you partying in the streets, alcohol consumption, dancing the streets and sun ads up to dehydration that has three stages of medical emergency. Dehydration sets in because the alcohol, to be metabolized uses much body water and you are also loosing much water through perspiration as your body tries to keep cool. Only water or apple juice will replenish your body's water reserves. Fruit juice or carbonated soft drinks do not help any to replenish your body's water. If no water is consumed the dehydration leads to heat cramps where cramping of muscles of the abdomen, legs, and arms take place. Without water, people with heat cramps will show pale tissue color, moist clammy skin, and rapid shallow breathing as they enter into the

heat exhaustion stage. There is still time to correct the problem. Unfortunately, if not addressed the last stage of dehydration is a life threatening heat stroke. A victim presents with red flushed skin. The person might or might not be sweating. Their pulse is rapid and as their temperature continues to rise above 105 F degrees they will appear disoriented and confused; before they lose consciousness; throwing water, beer, any cool liquid on them, to cool them down as quickly as possible helps.

Do not forget your ears. Some of these music wagons have sound decibels well in the range that causes ear damage. Earplugs, especially for children are a good idea. In your Healthy Carnival Kit, many given out free by public health and local charities, sunscreen should also be included. You know what I think about all the drugs that will be available.

Get The Point! Dancing in the streets with togetherness of those around you can be fun. Leaving work and worries behind can be relaxing, and dancing is great exercise. Throughout the many weeks of festivities and after the party, we are here to remind you to eat well, which may include additional supplementation for stress and energy, use protection in this time of sexual liberation and above all, stay well hydrated. We are here to help guide you and bring you back to balance



safely and as quickly as possible with cleansing and hydrating colon therapy and other natural remedies. Meanwhile, keep your eyes open and realize that anything in access can have negative health consequences. CARLOS VIANA, Ph. D. is an Oriental Medical Doctor (O.M.D.) having studied in Shanghai, China; a Board Cert. Clinical Nutritionist (C.C.N.), a fellow member of the Board Certified Association of Addiction Professionals (C.Ad.), the Chairperson of the Latin American Committee of the International Academy of Oral Medicine and Toxicology (IAOMT), specializes Anti-Aging Medicine, has a weekly radio program, writes and lectures extensively. information: VIANA For **NATURAL HEALING** CENTER NV, Kibaima 7, Aruba, TEL: 585-1270 FAX: 585-4789, Web Sight: www. vianaheal.com

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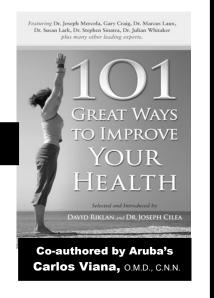
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GOP Senators Spend Big to Keep Minnesota Seat Vacant

The Nation -- It is now clear that Senate Republicans have a strategy for maintaining their ability to stall -- or, at the least, dramatically alter -- Obama administration initiatives.

Individual GOP senators are paying big bucks to keep the Senate's 100th seat -- representing Minnesota -- vacant for as long as possible.

In effect, key Republicans such as Senate Minority Leader Mitch McConnell are paying \$10,000 a piece to maintain their power to obstruct Congress.

Consider it an investment in the short-term future.

The partisan divide in the Senate is currently 58 Democrats (56 party members and two independents who caucus with the Democrats, Connecticut's Joe Lieberman and Vermont's Bernie Sanders) versus 41 Republicans.

That 41 figure is perilously close to the number that Republicans need to threaten filibusters. It takes 60 seats to invoke cloture and force action on legislation and appointments in the tradition-bound

If Minnesota Democratic-Farmer-Labor candidate Al Franken, who state officials determined weeks ago won the Senate seat by 225 votes, is block Senate deliberations. And with Pennsylvania Senator Arlen Specter -- a moderate, labor-friendly Republican who faces a tough reelection fight in a Democratic state next year showing a willingness to deal -- GOP Senate leaders well understand the vulnerability of their position.

So Republican senators are pouring money into the dead-end recount fight of former Senate Norm Coleman.

Coleman -- now the better part of two months out of office -- continues to mount an exceptionally expensive legal battle to "win" the Minnesota seat that all evidence suggests he has lost.

Coleman's lawyers are now pleading with a three-judge panel charged with conducting what was supposed to be a final review of the close result of the Coleman-Franken race to reverse a ruling that had seemed all but certain to settle the matter.

The three-judge panel rejected counting certain categories of contested absentee ballots.

Coleman's team is pressing for the counting of the ballots -- most of which have been repeatedly rejected by local and state officials -- in hopes that they will help reverse Franken's narrow lead.

Getting the judges to reverse their ruling is very much a long shot, Hamline University Law School professor David Schultz tells the Minneapolis Star-Tribune.

So why are Coleman's lawyers objecting? Schultz suggests Coleman's lawyers are laying the groundwork for an appeal to the Minnesota Supreme Court that will keep this unsettled race unsettled. "This is sort of the first step if they're thinking of doing an appeal," explains the professor.

Bottom line: It looks like we will have a 99-seat Senate for a good bit longer.

A reality check for Obama in Afghanist

By Walter Rodgers

OaKton, Va. - History may not repeat itself, but all too often it recycles mistakes. In 1961, before the Vietnam War became full-fledged, former Gen. Douglas MacArthur warned President Kennedy not to fight a land war in Asia. Over the next 14 years, more than 58,000 Americans died as Washington ignored his advice and ramped up operations.

Today, the US is stuck in another land war in Asia: Afghanistan. The original mission was to capture Osama bin Laden, disable Al Qaeda, remove the Taliban, and keep the country from being a safe haven for terrorists. After seven years of fighting, hundreds of dead US soldiers and thousands more wounded, those objectives have not been met.

And now the US wants to double down, adding as many as 30,000 additional US troops there to get the job done.

Sharp lessons from Soviets

It's unfathomable that Washington learned so little from the Soviet invasion of Afghanistan, which ended in an ignominious retreat followed by the collapse of the Soviet Union three years later. The Soviets lost 15,000 soldiers.

In the brief honeymoon after the collapse of communism in the early 1990s, US and Russian officials intellectuals and met to analyze the Afghan war and concluded it would have required 750,000 to 1 million Soviet troops to subdue Afghanistan. But Moscow never deployed more than 100,000 troops in Afghanistan at any one time. The Soviets discovered they could win battles but never hold more than a few cities in a country the size of Texas.

The United States now has 33,000 troops in Afghanistan. Even if President Obama agrees to double that amount, the effort will be wasted. Half a million US troops might not be enough. It wasn't in Vietnam. Mr. Obama needs to recognize that hesitation to expand the war in Afghanistan has nothing to do with will or cowardice and everything to do with wisdom. The totalitarian Soviets lacked the political will to deploy three quarters of a million troops. Kremlin mossbacks knew even the docile Russian populace of the Communist era wouldn't buy it. In 1979, when the ruling Politburo reluctantly decided to send in the troops, it was bitterly opposed by the chief of staff, Marshall of the Army

Nikolai Orgakov. He flatly first able to convert greedy warlords told then-Defense Minister Dimitri Ustinov and later party leader Leonid Brezhnev that Afghanistan would be a huge mistake. So controversial was the decision to commit Russian forces that only a handful of senior members of the ruling Politburo participated. In the end, those elders chose to go in, primarily because they feared the US was trying to destabilize Afghanistan and sew it into the West's patchwork encirclement of the Soviet Union.

It took nine years before Moscow concluded that its war in Afghanistan was a mistake. After the cold war. Russia declassified documents on Afghanistan and the West learned that on more than a dozen occasions between March of 1979 and the December invasion, Brezhnev refused to intervene despite destabilization of the Soviet Union's southern border

As a correspondent based in Moscow in the 1980s, I made several trips into Afghanistan with the Soviets. When I returned to Moscow, my Russian office manager asked me what it was like there. Waxing enthusiastic, I told her, "It was magnificent, straight out of Kipling and the 19th century." Her blue Slavic eyes narrowed. "No, Walt, you are wrong. Afghanistan is the 14th century."

After 9/11, when hordes of reporters traveled to this mystical, medieval land, the recommended reading was historical fiction of the late George MacDonald Fraser's first "Flashman" volume on the Anglo-Afghan War of 1839-1842. The entire retreating British column of upwards of 16,000 men, women, and children - save for one survivor – was wiped out by the forefathers of those who drove the Soviets out 150 years later. Obama would be well advised to read "Flashman" and realize how little Afghanistan has changed.

It would be delusional to expect any American expeditionary force to liberate and enlighten Afghans, freeing women from resurgent Taliban. There's an adage familiar to all who worked there: "There only two times an Afghan woman leaves her home: when she gets married and when she dies." Afghanistan is a land polkadotted in graveyards beyond counting. UNICEF says 20 percent of all Afghan children die before their fifth birthday. The entire US Army will not be

to modernity.

Aruba TODAY

Afghanistan is a feudal quilt of tribes. It's disingenuous to call it a country. It is a failed state, perhaps best babysat by its regional neighbors: Russia, Iran, China, Pakistan, Saudi Arabia, and India.

Their individual interests and goals in Afghanistan may differ, but none is eager to have a rejuvenated Al Qaeda caliphate led by loose cannons such as Ayman al-Zawahiri or Osama Bin Laden, whom they cannot control. If three regional superpowers - India, China, and Russia – opt to sit on the sidelines in their own neighborhood, what logic is there for American intervention from an ocean and continent awav?

Even as they request more troops, US generals have acknowledged that an Iraq-style "surge" won't work. "Afghanistan is not Iraq," said Gen. David McKiernan, who leads US and NATO forces in Afghanistan. General McKiernan, who led ground forces in Iraq in 2003, has described Afghanistan as "a far more complex environment than I ever found in Iraq." Today, the Pentagon talks of achieving not victory or lasting democracy but merely progress against militants.

No good options left

There are no good options left after the Bush administration's unnecessary war in Iraq. An increased American intervention in Afghanistan might have been more welcome six years ago. Now it is probably too late. Yet a total American withdrawal Afghanistan from would leave in its wake anarchy and bloodbath. An ugly Taliban triumph would ensue. The Taliban need to be contained, but not exclusively by the US, so Obama must persuade NATO and Afghanistan's nearneighbors to play a larger, perhaps dominant, role.

Pakistan can no longer labor under the illusion that it can manipulate events from across the border. If the Pakistanis have learned anything since 9/11, it should be that Afghanistan's destabilization increasingly threatens their own society. Imagine for a moment that the Obama administration were to announce a withdrawal from Afghanistan in six months. The regional powers who know their own neighborhood far better than Washington would quickly come up with a formula and the troops to stabilize the failed state.



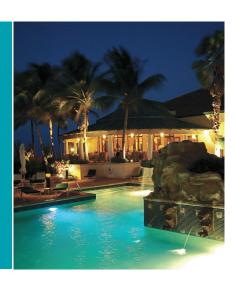
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Wednesday, February 18, 2009 ADVERTISEMENT

Aruba TODAY

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People from all over the world get together at Bugaloe: they have a few drinks,

a bite to eat, they dance and sway and make new friends. If you have gotten curious here and now, check out the website www.bugaloe. com and you will see at one glace what we are talking about. No words will be needed anymore. Surf to the website for the Bugaloe Event Calendar or leave a note in the Guestbook.

Bugaloe's daily Happy Hours are considered the starting signal for an evening of partying on the island. Locals mingle with visitors and raise their glasses. When you get hungry, order a scrumptious burger, a gourmet pizza, tasty wings or a salad and party on. The night is young, the world is going crazy and you are right in the middle of a super happening. What's not to like? A twice-a-month live breakfast radio show on Friday mornings with a spectacular breakfast buffet will keep you entertained as well.

A hot tip: Bugaloe Beach Bar puts on live bands on Tuesdays, Fridays and Sundays. Joyride, Lotus (YouTube keywords: lotus, bugaloe) and Marisela & Aquarius (YouTube keywords: marisela, confidential, 2008) are playing the stars from the sky. These bands are drawing the crowds, so be there or be square! On those nights the young as well as the young-at-heart are having the time of their lives. Photos of Bugaloe's happy times can be viewed at www.bugaloe.com. Don't forget to put your own movie of you and your friends having a whale of a time at Bugaloe on the web and enjoy being famous, crazy and hilarious. So upload, upload! We are looking forward to seeing you on YouTube or live in action.





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Texas de Brazil offers light and healthy eating

PALM BEACH – The health and calorie conscious among us need fear steakhouses no more. Whether it's a low-carb, low-fat, or even vegetarian diet you follow, Texas de Brazil Churrascaria fits into just about every dieter's menu plan. Low carb eaters will have all their expectations surpassed with a tempting carnivorous selection of

umpteen cuts of sizzling beef, pork, lamb, sausage, and poultry. The meats are prepared in the healthiest style of cooking—slow roasting—where much of the fat drips off in the roasting process, so those looking for a lower fat option to sautéing, pan frying, or deep frying will also be able to indulge.

The Brazilian-style steakhouse also offers up a garden full of healthy eats on a lavish 40-item seasonal salad bar, giving dieters plenty to choose from to accompany the slow-roasted meats. A selection of fresh lettuces and vegetables may be standard for most salad bars, but Texas de Brazil's version goes a gourmet twist further, treating the palate to additional items like marinated portabella mushrooms, sweet roasted bell peppers, hearts of palm, sundried tomatoes, imported cheeses—including fresh buffalomozzarella-sushi, homemade soups, and much more. The salad bar is included

in the continuous service meal with unlimited choices from the grilled meats, but for vegetarians or the nonmeat eaters, a special price is offered for just the salad bar. Of course, for those looking to splurge while on vacation, Texas de Brazil will gladly serve their garlic mashed potatoes, traditional fried plantains, and their world-famous parmesan cheese bread as part of the meal \square









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Wednesday, February 18, 2009



President Barack Obama signs the \$787 billion economic stimulus bill, as Vice President Joe Biden looks on at left, at the Denver Museum of Nature and Science in Denver on Tuesday, Feb. 17, 2009. Associated Press

Obama signs massive economic stimulus

DENVER (AP) — President Barack Obama The additional brigades would add about signed into law Tuesday one of the most costly pieces of legislation in U.S. history — a \$787 billion program to breathe life into the country's failing economy.

Speaking in Denver, the city where he won the Democratic presidential nomination last August, Obama said the massive government spending and tax cut program opened the road for Americans to begin "laying claim to a destiny of our own making."

The president put his signature to the bill in a highly unusual ceremony away from the partisan tensions still gripping Washington. As he spoke in Denver, he was closing out his first month in office — opening days of a new administration that have seen a relentless storm of economic bad news and public pessimism. Shortly after signing the bill, Obama issued a long-expected order to boost U.S. troop levels in Afghanistan, where a resurgent Taliban has retaken much of the ground it was driven out of early in the seven-year-old war.

"I approved a request from (Defense) Secretary (Robert) Gates to deploy a Marine Expeditionary Brigade later this spring and an Army Stryker Brigade and the enabling forces necessary to support them later this summer," Obama said in a statement released by the White House.

17,000 troops to the slightly more than 30,000 U.S. forces currently in Afghanistan.

After his legislative victory with the \$787 billion stimulus measure, Obama promised to take equally vigorous steps to prop up the country's deeply troubled financial system, ease the pain of Americans facing home mortgage foreclosures and save the teetering auto industry.

Automakers General Motors Corp. and Chrysler, now kept afloat on a combined \$13.4 billion in federal emergency loans, were to report later Tuesday on their plans for reorganizing toward long-term survival.

Obama spokesman Robert Gibbs told reporters traveling with the president on board Air Force One to the Colorado capital that he would not rule out bankruptcy for Detroit automakers and that the administration looked forward to reviewing the companies' restructuring plans.

Gibbs said it was important for the economy to have a strong and viable auto industry, adding it was up to automakers to make choices about what is most helpful to their recovery. He also confirmed that GM on Tuesday received another \$4 billion in government funds.

Continued on Next page

Senator tried to raise funds for Blagojevich



Sen. Roland Burris (D-Ill.), leaves a press conference outside Fellowship Missionary Baptist Church in Chicago, Monday, Feb. 16, 2009.

Associated Press

By JOHN O'CONNOR **Associated Press Writer**

SPRINGFIELD, Illinois (AP) — Sen. Roland Burris now acknowledges attempting to raise money for ousted Illinois Gov. Rod Blagojevich — an explosive twist in the story of how he landed his Senate appointment from the man accused of trying to sell President Barack Obama's open seat.

Continued on Page B4



Police use a water cannon to disperse protesters in the northern industrial city of Monterrey, Mexico, Tuesday Feb. 17, 2009. Hundreds of protesters in Monterrey and in several border cities demanded that the Mexican army leave their cities. Officials say the the protests are organized by drug cartels that they say are trying to disrupt the government's anti-drug crackdown.

Marchers block US border to protest army presence

By JULIE WATSON

Associated Press Writer

CIUDAD JUAREZ, Mexico (AP) — Hundreds of people blocked bridges to the United States in three border cities Tuesday, demanding the army leave in another challenge for the Mexican government as it struggles to quell escalating drug violence.

Continued on Page B6

Wednesday, February 18, 2009 U.S. NEWS





In this Dec. 5, 2008 file photo, General Motors Chief Executive Officer Richard Wagoner, left, and Chrysler Chief Executive Officer Robert Nardelli, right, gather their papers on Capitol Hill in Washington after testifying before the House Financial Services Committee hearing on the bailout of American automakers. General Motors Corp. and Chrysler LLC, racing to finish restructuring plans to present to the federal government, are unlikely to complete deals with debt holders and union workers by the government-imposed deadline Tuesday, Feb. 17, 2009.

ECONOMIC STIMULUS Continued from Page B1

Gibbs also said the administration was keeping an open mind about a second stimulus effort. He stressed, however, that there were no plans currently in the works for one

In remarks before signing the bill, Obama cautioned Americans not to expect a Associated Press quick or dramatic economic turnaround and said government intervention was

not at an end.

"I don't want to pretend that today marks the end of our economic troubles," Obama said before signing the legislation. "Nor does it constitute all of what we going to have to do to turn our economy around. But today

does mark the beginning of the end."

Obama has turned to appearances throughout the country to sell his economic plans, hoping to sustain support and foster hope among Americans who are giving him high marks in opinion polls. The president's travels pointedly contrast public backing for his economic plan to the partisan atmosphere still consuming Washington, where Republicans were nearly unanimous in opposing the stimulus measure.

Obama used the signing ceremony at the Denver Museum of Nature & Science to underscore investments the spending plan will make in "green" energy-related jobs.

As Obama traveled to Colorado, the White House opened a Web site, www. recovery.gov, that will allow people to track where the money is being spent. The White House press office also announced job growth projections for each state and congressional district.

On Wednesday he moves to

Arizona for the unveiling of a program to help millions of homeowners fend off home mortgage foreclosures.

Tuesday's signing of the massive stimulus measure was designed to start the flow of federal money nationwide toward infrastructure projects, health care, renewable energy developmentand conservation with twin goals of short-term job creation and longer-term economic healing.

The measure includes a \$400 tax break for most individual workers and \$800 for couples, including those who do not earn enough to pay income taxes. It delivers tens of billions of dollars to states to prevent deep spending cuts and more job layoffs. Consumers will receive tax incentives to buy first homes and new cars.

Poor people and laid-off workers will benefit from increased unemployment and food benefits and subsides for health insurance. The bill also includes a controversial "Buy American" provision that, despite being watered

Arizona for the unveiling of down, has drawn the ire of a program to help millions of U.S. trading partners.

Even with such massive spending plans, it's expected to take time for the economy to recover. So part of Obama's message as he has traveled the county is designed to lower expectations.

The unemployment rate is now at 7.6 percent, the highest in more than 16 years. Analysts warn the economy will remain feeble through 2009.

Republican lawmakers, who largely balked at the economic package, complained that it was short on cutting taxes and that the spending measures didn't target the vast sums of money well enough toward short-term job creation, which was the major goal of the bill. Many private economists are forecasting that the budget deficit for the current year will hit \$1.6 trillion, including the stimulus spending. That's about three times last year's shortfall, and such yearto-year deficits contribute toward a mounting national debt.

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U.S. NEWS B3
Wednesday, February 18, 2009





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ndreds of television stations cut off analog signal

NEW YORK - About a quarter of the nation's TV stations cut off their analog signals Tuesday, causing sets to go dark in households that were not prepared for digital television despite two years of warnings about the transition. Though most viewers were ready — and people with cable or satellite service were unaffected — some stations and call centers reported a steady stream of questions from frustrated callers. Many wondered how to get coupons for converter boxes that translate digital signals for older TVs — or how to get the devices working.

"It's kind of an irritation, but I understand that everyone will have a much better picture. As far as I was concerned, they could have left things the way they were," said Dorothy Delegard, 67, of Minneapolis, who bought a converter box because a friend gave her a coupon that expires Tuesday. Phones were ringing off the hook at a walk-in information center set up by stations in Providence, R.I.

A volunteer at the center, Jeremy Taylor, said he tried to calm agitated callers and explain the reasons for the disappearance of analog signals, which have remained largely unchanged since the 1950s.

"I try to explain that the digital switch is not something we're doing to extort them of money," Taylor said.

The federal government mandated the end of analog broadcasts to make room on those frequencies for wireless Internet service, emergency radio traffic and other uses. Digital TV broadcasts, which began several years ago, take up much less of the wireless spectrum.

Originally, all U.S. stations were to cut their analog signals



on Tuesday, but at the urging of the Obama administration. Congress voted this month to give broadcasters more time. Most stations, particularly those in big cities, accepted the offer to wait until June 12. Others wanted to stick to Feb. 17, a date they had spent much airtime advertising. Many of them had also booked engineering work on their antennas for that day.

The Federal Communications Commission, which wanted to ensure that no one would be entirely deprived of analog signals, cleared 421 stations to go all-digital this week. Another 220 stations have already made the switch, including all stations in Hawaii.

The most populous places where many or all majornetwork stations are cutting analog this week include San Diego and Santa Barbara, Calif.; La Crosse and Madison, Wis.; Rockford and Peoria, Ill.; Sioux City, Iowa; Waco, Texas; Macon, Ga.; Scranton, Pa.; Rhode Island and Vermont.

In most cases, one station in

each of those markets will continue sending analog signals until June or will offer a so-called "analog nightlight" for a few months, with limited local news and emergency broadcasts, as well as information about the digital TV transition.

The back-and-forth over the cutoff date threw both TV stations and viewers for a loop.

Jeff Long, manager of WHKY-TV, an independent station in Hickory, N.C., said the company's analog shutdown went smoothly on Saturday, but some viewers complained that they thought it had been postponed until June 12.

RadioShack Corp. circulars in newspapers this weekend had the opposite message, saying Feb. 17 was still the date for the end of analog TV. Spokeswoman Mary Delagarza said the fliers had been prepared two months in advance and could not be pulled.

Congress delayed the cutoff in large part because the fund that pays for \$40 converterbox coupons had reached its

spending limit. Coupons are now being issued only as fast as old ones expire unused.

stimulus bill The that President Barack Obama signed Tuesday contains \$650 million in additional funding. Once that money becomes available, it can clear the backlog of 4 million coupons in a few weeks. Without a coupon, a converter box costs \$45 to \$80.

Joe Glynn, vice president of engineering at PBS affiliate WVIA-TV near Scranton, Pa., said the station got a dozen calls in the past two days about its planned changeover at 11:59 p.m. Tuesday. The converter boxes have been a frequent subject.

"Unfortunately, some of them

have asked how you get the coupons for the converter box. Some of them have called asking us if we sell converter boxes. Others are calling and saying 'I got the converter, but I'm not getting anything on it' — I'm assuming because they don't have it hooked up right," he said.

He said most callers acknowledge that they only have themselves to blame for procrastinating.

"Everybody admits it's their fault. They knew it was coming," he said. "Some people seemed to be mad at themselves for not doing something sooner."

Even converter boxes that are correctly installed may drop some channels.

That's because apart from killing analog, many stations are also changing to new digital frequencies. Viewers who were already watching the digital signal, either through a converter box or a digital TV set, will lose the channel until they force the device to "rescan" the airwaves.

In addition, many households will find that they need new antennas.

Digital signals generally come in better than analog ones, but they are not received well by some older antennas. Spokeswoman Lea Sloan at PBS said that a rising number of calls to member stations are from people who are getting digital signals, but not all the ones they want.



Wednesday, February 18, 2009 POLITICS



Former Chicago Alderman Arenda Troutman leaves the Dirksen U.S. Courthouse Tuesday, Feb. 17, 2009, in Chicago after being sentenced to four years in prison after pleading guilty last August to mail and tax fraud. She admitted that for several years she had solicited cash from developers to back their projects in her 20th

Associated Press

Continued from Page B1

BURRIS

Burris made the admission to reporters late Monday, after releasing an affidavit over the weekend saying he had more contact with Blagojevich advisers about the Senate seat than he had described under oath to the state House panel that recommended Blagojevich's impeachment.

The Democrat also said in the affidavit, but not before the panel, that the governor's brother asked him for fundraising help.

Though Burris insists he never raised money for Blagojevich Burris, in the middle of a

while the governor was considering whom to appoint to the seat Obama vacated, the revelation that he had attempted to do so is likely to increase calls for Burris' resignation and an investigation into whether he committed perjury before the panel.

Illinois Democrats have sent documents related to Burris' testimony to a county prosecutor for review. In Washington, a good-government group recommendedBurris'expulsion from the Senate if an ethics committee investigation shows he lied to Senate leaders.

northern and central Illinois cities, would not discuss his attempts to raise funds for Blagojevich, but said he didn't do anything wrong and encouraged officials to look into the matter.

"I welcome the opportunity to go before any and all investigative bodies ... to answer any questions they have," he told reporters in Peoria, before declining to answer questions.

Burris, who declined to address reporters again during a later stop in Bloomington, also said he planned to release later this week "a concise document" related to his testimony, but he would not elaborate.

After an event Monday night in Peoria, Burris told reporters that he had reached out to friends after Blagojevich's brother, Robert, called him before President Barack Obama's election asking him to raise \$10,000 or \$15,000 for the governor.

"So sometime shortly after Obama was elected, the brother called (again) and I had talked to some people about trying to see if we could put a fundraiser on," Burris said, according to an audio clip provided by the Peoria Journal-Star.

But Burris said his friends

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previously scheduled tour of weren't willing to contribute and suggested that Robert Blagojevich talk to Burris' partner about approaching other potential donors.

> Burris reiterated that in the end, he raised no money and hosted no fundraiser. He told Robert Blagojevich in a later conversation that he couldn't raise money because he was interested in the Senate seat. Burris, however, already had indicated his interest in the Senate seat to gubernatorial including aides. Robert before Blagojevich, November election.

Lawmakers of both parties have said Burris should resign after he admitted over the weekend that he had talked to several aides of the governor before getting the Senate post. During his testimony before the panel, he said he remembered talking only to one aide about the seat and did not say he was hit up for campaign donations.

The new affidavit submitted to the impeachment panel indicated contact not only with Robert Blagojevich, but with Blagojevich's former chief of staff John Harris and two other close friends — all of whom Burris had been specifically asked about by the committee's top Republican.

"You would think those

*Fully Furnished

*Swimming Pool

would be the kind of people vou'd remember vou had a conversation with," said Rep. Gary Hannig, a Democrat.

truba TODAY

The watchdog group Citizens for Responsibility and Ethics in Washington called for prosecutors to review Burris' statements for possible perjury and for an investigation into whether Burris misled U.S. Senate leaders

"If so, the ethics committee should recommend that the Senate expel Sen. Burris for improper conduct that reflects upon the Senate," said Melanie Sloan, the group's director. Senate Majority Leader Harry Reid "supports Sen. Burris' decision to cooperate" with any investigation, a spokesman said Tuesday.

Reid and his No. 2, Illinois Sen. Dick Durbin, initially refused to seat Burris because he had been appointed by Blagojevich three weeks after the governor was arrested on federal charges that he tried to profit from the Senate appointment. They relented on the condition that Burris testify before the impeachment committee.

State Rep. Jack Franks said he asked Reid's office Tuesday to open an ethics review.

"I don't see how they can really avoid it at this point with the ever-changing story of Sen. Burris," Franks said.

Sen. Barbara Boxer, chairman of the Senate's ethics committee, declined to comment Tuesday on whether the panel would investigate Burris. A spokeswoman for Boxer would not say whether a case would be opened but said preliminary inquiries begin whenever there are "allegations of improper conduct."

Burris initially told the impeachment committee he had only a brief conversation with Rod Blagojevich, a fellow Democrat, before he was named to the Senate seat Dec. 30. In testimony before the House committee Jan. 8. he added that he had discussed the seat with a longtime Blagojevich friend last summer.

Illinois House Speaker Michael Madigan called Sangamon County State's Attorney John Schmidt on Tuesday and alerted him to the package of material he was sending, but did not make any comments on the situation, Madigan spokesman Steve Brown said. Schmidt released a statement saying only the matter is under review.



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U.S. REGIONAL B5
Wednesday, February 18, 2009



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Good Food, Great Fun! orte are haffled by chimnanzee attack

Animal experts are baffled by chimpanzee attack

By JOHN CHRISTOFFERSEN Associated Press Writer

STAMFORD, Connecticut (AP)—Travisthe chimpanzee, a veteran of TV commercials, was the constant companion of a lonely widow who fed him steak, lobster and ice cream. He could eat at the table, drink wine from a stemmed glass, use the toilet, and dress and bathe himself.

He brushed his teeth with a Water Pik, logged on to a computer to look at photos and channel-surfed television with the remote control.

But on Monday, the wild animal in him came out with a vengeance.

The 200-pound (90-kilogram) animal viciously mauled a friend of his owner before being shot to death by police. Investigators are trying to figure out why — whether it was a bout of Lyme disease, a reaction to drugs, or a case of instinct taking over.

"It's hard to say what exactly precipitated this behavior," said Colleen McCann, a primatologist at the Bronx Zoo. "At the end of the day, they are not human and you can't always predict their behavior and how they or any other wild animal will respond when they feel threatened."

Travis attacked 55-year-old Charla Nash as Sandra Herold frantically stabbed her beloved pet with a butcher knife and pounded him with a shovel. Nash was in critical condition Tuesday with "life-changing, if not life-threatening," injuries to her face and hands, Mayor Dannel Malloy said.

Police said they are looking into the possibility of criminal charges. A pet owner can be held criminally responsible if he or she knew or should have known that an animal was a danger to others.

Police said that Travis was

agitated earlier Monday and that Herold had given him the anti-anxiety drug Xanax in some tea. Police said the drug had not been prescribed for the 14-year-old chimp.

In humans, Xanax can cause memory loss, lack of coordination, reduced sex drive and other side effects. It can also lead to aggression in people who were unstable to begin with, said Dr. Emil Coccaro, chief of psychiatry at the University of Chicago Medical Center.

"Xanax could have made him worse," if human studies are any indication, Coccaro said. Stephen Rene Tello, executive director of Primarily Primates, a sanctuary for chimps in Texas, said it is difficult to say what effect Xanax would have on a chimp, but he noted that chimps and humans have similar physiology.

Investigators said they were also told that Travis had Lyme disease, a tick-borne illness with flu-like symptoms that can lead to arthritis and meningitis in humans.

"Maybe from the medications he was out of sorts," Stamford police Capt. Richard Conklin said.

Herold could not be reached for comment. A woman answering the door at Herold's home, where drops of blood stained the walkway, would not speak to reporters Tuesday. Conklin said Herold was "traumatized by this very, very brutal attack."

Don Mecca, a family friend, said Herold fed the chimp steak, lobster, ice cream and Italian food.

Herold built the chimpanzee a large cage in her home. She knew chimps could be dangerous but found it hard to part with Travis, Mecca said. When he was younger, Travis starred in TV commercials for Old Navy and Coca-Cola,



The body of Travis is seen shrouded by a sheet in the back of a Stamford Animal Control truck at the Herold residence in Stamford, Conn. Monday, Feb. 16, 2009. Travis, a domesticated chimpanzee, was shot and killed by a Stamford Police officer after a violent rampage that left a friend of its owner badly mauled.

Associated Pres

made an appearance on the "Maury Povich Show" and took part in a television pilot, according to a 2003 story in The Advocate newspaper of Stamford.

"He's been raised almost like a child by this family," Conklin said. "He rides in a car every day. He opens doors. He's a very unique animal in that aspect. We have no indication of what provoked this behavior at all."







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Protesters block a main avenue as they hold up a banner that reads: "The Soldiers won't let us Live in Peace, We are Scared" in the northern industrial city of Monterrey, Mexico, Tuesday, Feb. 17, 2009.

U.S. BORDER Continued from Page B1

The protests in Ciudad Juarez blocked traffic for at least an hour across three bridges connecting the city to El Paso, Texas. Similar protests broke out on bridges in the border cities of Nuevo Laredo and Associated Press

Reynosa, while demonstrators blocked roads in the northern industrial city of Monterrey and the Gulf state of Veracruz.

It was the largest display of discontent against the army's role in an anti-drug crackdown since President Felipe Calderon began deploying soldiers across

the country two years ago to fight cartels. About 45,000 soldiers are now spread out across Mexico.

Government and armv officials claimed that drug cartels organized similar protests in Monterrey earlier this month to undermine the crackdown. Federal officials had no immediate comment on Tuesday's protests.

Human rights activists say there are legitimate complaints about abuses by soldiers, including cases in which patrols opened fire on civilians at military checkpoints. But they say it is unclear who has been behind the demonstrations.

Calderon's offensive initially widely popular among Mexicans hopeful for an end to relentless shootings, kidnappings and killings. But drug violence has only surged and become more violent since he took office, with drug gangs beheading rivals and attacking police nearly every day. More than 6,000 people were killed in drug violence last year.

towns have been

transformed by the crackdown, with soldiers in ski masks regularly rumbling down the streets in large convoys.

About 30 people, mostly women and children, blocked the Paso del Norte bridge leading from Ciudad Juarez to downtown El Paso. They shouted "soldiers, get out!" as they stood in front of about 20 troops in green army pickup trucks. One person held a sign reading, "Get out of Juarez, thieving abusive soldiers."

Brenda Contreras, a 22-year-old mother of two, said the city has only become more dangerous since troops arrived. She said soldiers detained her 32-yearold husband during a raid at a car wash three months ago, and she has not heard from him despite filing a complaint with the Defense Department.

"I saw him on the floor and they wouldn't let me get near him. Where he is, only the army knows. What am I going to tell my daughters?" she said.

The protesters waved to soldiers and dispersed peacefully after about an hour, allowing a long line of cars to proceed across the bridge.

trubu TODAY

Not all city residents, however, are against the army's presence. "Knowing that the soldiers are out there all over the city makes

me feel that the city is more protected," said Cynthia de los Santos, 32, a secretary at a Ciudad Juarez law firm.

In Nuevo Laredo, 150 people blocked three bridges leading to Laredo, Texas, for several hours. Many were masked men, but some were women and children.

Protesters also blocked bridges leading to Texas from Reynosa, the town's mayor, Oscar Luebbert, told Mexico's Radio Formula.

Luebbert also said a shootout erupted Tuesday between federal police and armed men in Reynosa, and authorities were trying to confirm reports that several people were killed. He said the shootout appeared unrelated to the demonstrations.

"The situation is very critical," Luebbert said. "The whole population is very alarmed."



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Guadeloupe strikers block roads, force airport to close

By CHRISTOPHE LANGLOIS

Associated Press Writer

BASSE-TERRE, Guadeloupe (AP) — The French Caribbean island of Guadeloupe was on the verge of rebellion, a political leader said Tuesday after stone-throwing protesters set cars and buildings ablaze, forced the international airport to close and clashed with police.

Nearly four weeks of work stoppages and demonstrations for lower prices and higher pay have caused thousands of tourists to flee or cancel holidays on the normally tranquil island, prompting many hotels to close and cruise ships to head elsewhere. "It is a political crisis, an institutional crisis and we are on the brink of sedition," Guadeloupe's Regional Council President Victorin Lurel told France-Info radio.

From Paris, France's Interior Minister Michele Alliot-Marie said the protests had caused "degradation, devastation and confrontations" on Guadeloupe and its sister island, Martinique, where most shops and offices have been closed by the protests. She urged "calm, responsibility and restraint" and said she hoped for a resumption of talks with protesters that broke down last week. Police said they arrested 18 people overnight as protesters burned cars, a library and a boat-rental store in Sainte-Anne and Pointa-Pitre. An official, speaking on the standard condition of anonymity, said at least three officers suffered minor wounds due to gunshots fired by looters taking advantage of the chaos. Guadeloupe's main airport

taking advantage of the chaos. Guadeloupe's main airport was closed Tuesday because workers could not pass through barricaded and debris-clogged roads, said Guadeloupe's top appointed official, Nicolas Desforges, and several flights were canceled.

About 450,000 people live on Guadeloupe, a verdant hilly island boasting white-sand beaches that is an integral part of France. Behind much of the unrest in Guadeloupe and Martinique is resentment by Afro-Caribbeans, many of whom are descendants of slaves, that the vast majority of wealth and land are in the hands of offspring of colonists.

Paris has refused to budge on strikers' demands for a 200 euro (\$250) monthly raise for low-paid workers who now make roughly 900 euros (\$1,130) a month. But business leaders in Martinique agreed Tuesday to a 20 percent price cut on most supermarket products, despite initial refusal.

Stephane Hayot, a spokesman for the National Union of Wholesale Distributors, earlier said the move "would represent our death sentence" by forcing them to sell at prices that don't cover their costs.

Police detained 50 demonstrators on Monday after they were pelted by stones as they tried to take down barricades. Roadblocks were being gradually lifted Tuesday morning and a trickle of vehicle traffic was resuming, the police official said.

The U.S. Embassy in Parisissued Americans in Guadeloupe and Martinique to avoid crowds.

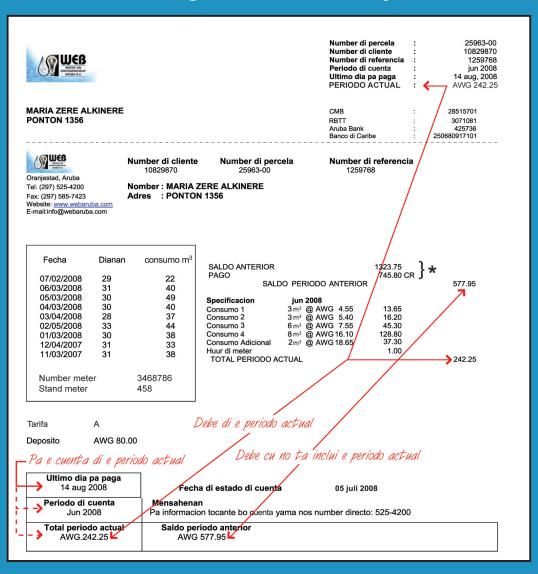
"Most commercial activities have ceased, and there are mounting shortages of food, water, and power on both islands," the embassy said. "In Guadeloupe there are reports of increasing tensions, with armed gangs blockading routes and targeting residents and tourists. There have been no reports of U.S. citizens being specifically targeted."

Burned-out cars and debris litter the street in the aftermath of a night of protests against high prices and low wages, in Point-a-Pitre, Guadeloupe, Tuesday, Feb. 17, 2009.

Associated Press



Changes in the water bill of W.E.B. Aruba N.V. concerning the bill of January 2009





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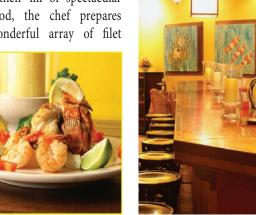


PALM BEACH - Fishes and More Restaurant opened up in the Arawak Gardens just 3 and a half years ago and has been a great success since day one. PALM BEACH - Fishes and More Restaurant opened up in the Arawak Gardens just 3 and a half years ago and has been a great success since day one. Word on the street is that once you eat at Fishes and More, consider yourself addicted. The owners Jeroen Kuling

to prepare your fish the way you like it best: grilled, deep-fried,



and Hans Heijink together pan-fried or the chef's choice. mignon, rib eye, wiener with the staff Romalo, Heidi, Every Wednesday, seafood Mariella, Denise and Chef specials are prepared de-Gerben work hard keeping the pending on what the Fishrestaurant open 7 days a week ermen bring in fresh out of from 4 pm till 11pm for eve- the water that afternoon. ryone to enjoy. The ambiance These specials usually include at the restaurant is out of this fresh Caribbean lobster and world, whether dinning inside pounds of peeled shrimps. in the relaxed air-conditioned Fishes and More is for everydinning room or outside on one, from large groups, famithe terrace to enjoy the tropilies, couples and even singles cal breeze and daily live music. who can't shake the seafood Most guests come in early for addiction can stop in for a the daily fresh catches, such fix of Pina Colada Shrimp. as Red snapper, grouper, mahi For those who like to try mahi, wahoo and tuna. Check something different or have with the server to find out had their fill of spectacular about the Catch of the day. seafood, the chef prepares The chefwill be more than happy a wonderful array of filet



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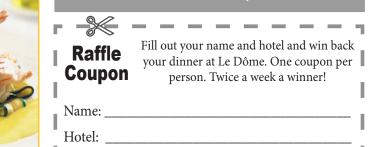
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an Fried Duck Breast served with Pommes Dauph

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Taylor, McAlister latest vets to be cut



In this Oct. 12, 2008 file photo, Jacksonville Jaguars running back Fred Taylor runs against the Denver Broncos during an NFL football game in Denver. The Jaguars released Taylor on Monday, Feb. 16, 2009, parting ways with their all-time leading rusher after 11 seasons and continuing the team's offseason makeover.

Associated Press

By The Associated Press

NEW YORK (AP) — Fred Taylor and Chris McAlister, two former Pro Bowlers, fell victim Monday to the NFL's annual purge of high-salaried veterans.

The 33-year-old Taylor, Jacksonville's all-time leading rusher, was cut after 11 seasons as the team continued its offseason makeover. He was due to make \$6 million next season.

The 31-year-old McAlister, a three-time Pro Bowler, was cut by Baltimore after 10 seasons.

He was scheduled to make \$8 million in 2009.

In another move, the Cincinnati Bengals designated kicker Shayne Graham as their franchise player, leaving three key starters, wide receiver T.J. Houshmandzadeh, running back Cedric Benson and left tackle Stacy Andrews who will become free agents on Feb. 27. Graham is guaranteed a salary of

\$2.483 million next season if he doesn't negotiate a long-term deal.

Taylor has 11,271 yards rushing and is the 16th leading rusher in NFL history. He had wanted to finish his career with the team.

He made his first Pro Bowl in 2007 after running for 1,202 yards and a careerbest 5.4 yards a carry.

But he finished with just 556 yards last season and averaged a career-low 3.9 yards per carry behind an injury-riddled offensive line as Maurice Jones-Drew took over his starting spot.

He spent the final three games of the season on injured reserve after tearing ligaments in his left thumb as Jacksonville finished 5-11 after reaching the second round of the playoffs in 2007.

"We felt like the best thing for this football team is what it has to be about," said coach Jack Del Rio, who last week cut cornerback Drayton Florence and

wide receiver Jerry Porter, high-priced free agents a year ago who failed to live up to expectations. "We feel good about the talented group of backs that we have ... and as you work through it, it's difficult to come up with a role that's going to be acceptable for everybody.

"It makes it awkward. It makes it difficult. We came to an agreement on what the best course of action was as a football team."

McAlister, who started for Baltimore's Super Bowl winner in 2001, ranks third on the Ravens' career list with 26 interceptions and scored seven touchdowns for Baltimore — including a 107-yard return of a missed field goal.

He started five games last season before being benched and was placed on injured reserve with an injury to his right knee on Nov. 11. McAlister finished the season with three interceptions and 19 tackles.



Rodriguez says cousin injected him with substance

By RONALD BLUM **AP Baseball Writer**

TAMPA, (AP) Florida New York Yankees star Rodriguez admitted on Tuesday that his cousin repeatedly injected him with a substance from the Dominican Republic.

Joined at a press conference by Yankees general manager Brian Cashman and manager Joe Girardi, Rodriguez again apologized for taking banned from 2001-2003 drugs while he was with the Texas Rangers.

He blamed his 2003 positive doping test on being young and naive.

"I knew we weren't taking Tic Tacs," Rodriguez said at Steinbrenner Field.

He said his cousin introduced him to "boli," saying it was an over-the-counter substance in the Dominican. While with Texas, he said his cousin

injected him about twice a month during six-month cycles to get an energy boost. "I didn't think they were steroids," he said. "That's again part of being young and stupid. It was over the counter. It was pretty simple.

"All these years I never thought I did anything wrong."

He said he wasn't sure how the drug use helped him, but admitted he had more energy. Rodriguez said he has not used human growth hormone or any other banned drug since then. He refused to identify his cousin.

The three-time American League MVP and Major League Baseball's highestpaid player spoke at the Yankees' spring training camp 10 days after Sports Illustrated reported that he tested positive in 2003.

"He's a huge investment. So he's an asset, and this is an

asset that's currently in crisis." Cashman said. "So we will do everything we can to protect that asset. ... If this is Humpty Dumpty, we've got to put him back together again, to get back up on the wall."

In an interview last week with ESPN, Rodriguez blamed the pressures of his \$250 million contract with Texas for his decision to use performanceenhancing drugs.

"I thought I knew everything, and I clearly didn't," Rodriguez said in his statement. "Like everyone else, I've made a lot of mistakes in my life. The only way I know how to handle it is to move forward. "One thing I know: Baseball is a lot bigger than Alex Rodriguez."

For years, Rodriguez denied using performance-enhancing drugs. But SI reported he was on a list of 104 players who tested positive during MLB's



New York Yankees third baseman Alex Rodriguez speaks to reporters during a news conference at George M. Steinbrenner Field Tuesday, Feb. 17, 2009 in Tampa, Fla.

Associated Press

2003 survey. SI identified the drugs causing the positive test as Primobolan and testosterone.

"We consulted no one and had no good reason to base that decision," he said. "It was pretty evident that we didn't know what we're doing."

Asked whether his statistics during 2001-03 should count, he said it wasn't for him to decide.

The 33-year-old Rodriguez has hit 553 home runs and is expected by many to break Barry Bonds' MLB record of 762.

NHL Roundup

Bylsma's first game as Pens coach ends in SO loss

on the road in 2009.

Chris Campoli and Frans Nielsen scored for New York, which owns the NHL's worst record (17-33-6). MacDonald stopped 35 shots before the tiebreaker.

Stars 3, Blue Jackets 2, SO At Columbus, Ohio, James Neal scored the only goal in the shootout and Marty Turco had 41 saves to lead Dallas past Columbus.

Neal, 6-for-9 in shootouts this season, slipped the puck past Steve Mason on the glove side. Turco, tested all night, then made a blocker save on Blue Jackets captain Rick Nash to preserve the win.

Dallas' Brad Richards scored 27 seconds into the game, before most of the crowd of 15,006 had settled in. Loui Eriksson collected his 27th to tie it in the second period. R.J. Umberger had both Blue Jackets goals in a span of 1:29 in the second period - the fastest goals ever by a Columbus player.

Blues 2, Rangers 1

At St. Louis, B.J. Crombeen scored the go-ahead goal on a rebound with 5:14 to play, lifting St. Louis over the New York Rangers.

Lauri Korpikoski had the lone goal for the Rangers, who have lost eight of nine while scoring two or fewer goals in all but one. New York is 0-6-1 in its last seven on the road, this time falling to a franchise whose rebuilding job is led by longtime Rangers broadcaster and former goalie John Davidson.

scored for the Blues, 4-1-2 in their last seven games while trying to inch into playoff contention.

Henrik Lundqvist had 31 saves a day after brought off in the second period of a loss at Philadelphia.

Senators 2, Predators 0 At Nashville, Tennessee, Nick Foligno and Dany Heatley scored first-period goals, and Alex Auld made 24 saves to lead Ottawa past Nashville for its season-high fifth straight victory.

The shutout was the first of the season for Auld, and sixth of his career. After losing nine consecutive decisions, Auld has won two in a row.

Since replacing Craig Hartsburg as coach on Feb. 2, Cory Clouston has guided Ottawa to a 5-1-1 record.



New York Islanders' Jeff Tambellini (15) is congratulated by his teammates after scoring the game-winning goal in a shootout to give the Islanders a 3-2 win over the Pittsburgh Penguins in an NHL hockey game Monday, Feb. 16, 2009, at Nassau Coliseum in Uniondale, N.Y.

Associated Press

UNIONDALE, New York (AP) — Frans Nielsen and Jeff Tambellini scored shootout goals, and Joey MacDonald turned aside Pittsburgh stars Evgeni Malkin and Sidney Crosby in the tiebreaker to lift the lowly New York Islanders to a 3-2 victory Monday.

Dan Bylsma's first game

behind the Pittsburgh Penguins bench ended like so many under former coach Michel Therrien: with a loss.

Bylsma got the call that he would replace Therrien on Sunday, just before he was set to coach his Wilkes Barre-Scranton club in an AHL game. Pittsburgh fell to 1-7-2

Chris Mason made 19 saves and Carlo Colaiacovo also Wednesday, February 18, 2009 CLASSIFIED

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Mercados de América Latina se derrumban por temor economía global

BUENOS AIRES (Reuters) Acciones y monedas de América Latina se derrumbaban el martes, presionadas por creciente aversión al riesgo avivada por los temores a una aguda recesión global y la extrema debilidad del sector financiero.

Las bolsas de la región perdían terreno, así como los precios de las materias primas, que acompañaban la debilidad de los mercados mundiales, azuzados por el temor a que sean insuficientes los esfuerzos de Washington por evitar profundización de una la recesión en Estados Unidos.

Brasil, la mayor economía de América Latina, se desplomaban acciones y moneda.

El índice Bovespa de la Bolsa de Valores de Sao Paulo, caía un 4,65 por ciento, a 39.896,27 puntos, frente a las 41.841 unidades del cierre del lunes, cuando ganó un 0,4 por ciento.

"E1 mercado está

aguardando explicaciones sobre el funcionamiento del plan de socorro a los bancos y con temor a la quiebra de las automotrices en Estados Unidos", dijo Luiz Roberto Monteiro, asesor de inversiones de la correduría Souza Barros en Sao Paulo.

El real se depreciaba un 1,45 por ciento, a 2,311/2,313 por dólar en el mercado interbancario, al valorizarse la divisa estadounidense globalmente porque los inversores buscaban un refugio temerosos por la crisis global.

"Es el mal humor derivado de ese escenario de crisis", dijo Rodrigo Nassar, gerente de la mesa financiera de correduría Hencorp Commcor. La bolsa mexicana perdía un 3,38 por ciento, con el índice líder IPC en 18,861.60 unidades. El peso mexicano se depreciaba un 1.02 por ciento, a 14.6600 por dólar. El índice Reuters-Jefferies CRB, referencial mundial materias primas, cayó el martes a mínimos de 6 años y medio debido a que los precios del petróleo en Estados Unidos se desplomaron un 7 por ciento.

La Bolsa argentina profundizaba el martes sus pérdidas, con el índice Merval de Buenos Aires cayendo un 5,31 por ciento a 1.064,06 puntos.

actual coyuntura mundial "lleva a un cuadro de ventas de posiciones en aquellos papeles de mayor liquidez por los temores a un recrudecimiento en la crisis financiera global", Claudio diio Szlaien. analista de Marlon Recursos Financieros.

El peso argentino en el mercado interbancario caía un 0,21 por ciento a 3,5025/3,505, mientras que el informal bajaba el mismo porcentaje a 3,5425/3,5475. En tanto, la bolsa de Chile también caía con fuerza. con el índice IPSA de las acciones líderes en la Bolsa de Comercio de Santiago bajando un 1,74 por ciento, a 2.586,57 puntos. El peso chileno anotaba su segunda baja consecutiva operando 593,50 pesos la venta.

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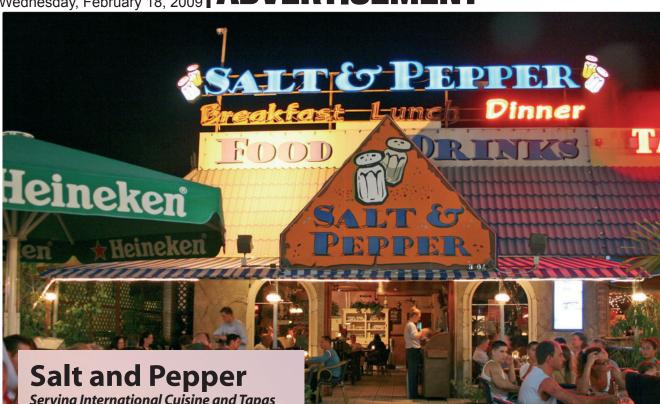


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Café the Plaza (at Renaissance Marketplace, Downtown) International Cuisine Phone: 583-8826 Breakfast, Lunch, Dinner and Daily Live music A Dutch style restaurant with moderate prices Open from

10.00 am - 01.00 am www.cafetheplaza.com

Live Music. World famous Argentine beef prepared on open charcoal grill. Open from 5.00 pm - 11.00 pm www.tangoaruba.com

Tango Argentine Grill

(at Arawak Garden,

International Cuisine

High Rise Hotels)

and Charcoal Grill

Phone: 586-8600

Dinner and Daily

Salt & Pepper (at Arawak Garden, High Rise Hotels) International Cuisine and Tapas

Phone: 586-3280 Breakfast, Lunch and Dinner. Daily Live music by local artists and bands on our large terrace. Open from 8.00 am - 01.00 am

MooMba Beach (between Holiday Inn & Marriott Surf Club) International Cuisine Phone: 586-5365 Breakfast, Lunch, Dinner and Daily Live Music Enjoy dinner by torch light... barefoot on the beach. Open from 7.00 am - 11.00 pm Bar open from 10.00 am - 01.00 am

Sopranos Piano Bar (at Arawak Garden, High Rise Hotels) Bar with Live Entertainment Phone: 586-8622 Extensive Cocktail menu Daily live music, request your favorite songs and sing along! Open from 5.00 pm - 01.00 am 7 days a week

(Downtown) International Cuisine AAA/4 Diamond Award Phone: 583-9200 A refined dining experience.

Matilde Restaurant

www.matildearuba.com

Restaurant open from

11.30 am - 11.00 pm

7 days a week



Mambo Jambo Latin Bar & Grill (Royal Plaza International & Latin

Cuisine Phone: 583-3632 Lunch, Dinner, Live Bands Salsa Dancing, Great food and good music 7 days a week. Restaurant oper from 11.00 am - 09.00 pm Bar open from 11.00 am - 04.00 am



(between MooMba Beach and Marriott Surf Club) International and Seafood Phone: 586-2288 Breakfast, Lunch and Dinner Seafood with a view Restaurant open from 8.00 am - 11.00 pm www.hadicurari.com











www.sopranospianobar.com







WWW.ARUBAWINEANDDINE.COM











